

Edina Art center Board Meeting April 26, 2007

Members present: Gene Andersen, Dolores Dege, Liz Eisenbrey, George Hadjiyanis, Bill McCabe, Heather Randall King, Ken Rosland, Daniel Schroeder, Ruth Valgemae and Jim Van Valkenburg.

Members absent: Mike Kelly.

Staff present: Phil Johnson

Call To Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by chair, Jim Van Valkenburg

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the November 16, 2006 meeting were read. Heather moved and Dee seconded; approved.

Welcome New Board Members

Jim Van Valkenburg asked Daniel Schroeder, the new Student Member, to introduce himself. Daniel is an 11th grade student at Edina High. He has taken classes at the Art Center, winning prizes in the Juried Show. His great love is photography.

Juried Show Meetings - Dee Dege

The 2007 Juried Show will run from August 23 to October 3. The next meeting of the Juried Show Committee is Thursday, May 10 at 4 pm. A tentative meeting has been set for May 24, following the EAC Board Meeting.

Dee is redoing the solicitation letter to prospective donors. The current list includes people who donated 5 years ago which seemed to Dee to be inappropriate. She suggested that the list be trimmed to include people who have been donors in the last 3 years. Ken moved to that effect; Dee seconded; passed.

Dee is making flyers and advertising cards for distribution. She is also formulating written instructions for volunteers so they can get to work more quickly. She asked if Board Members knew whether the Watercolor Society would permit juried show information on their Web site. Ruth stated that she had checked last year and found that this would not be permitted.

Dee is in process of identifying possible judges. She had been in touch with the Director of the Minnesota Center for Photography. Heather added that a candidates list was made last year and could be a resource this year.

A discussion ensued regarding possibly giving judges some guidelines to promote more equitable representation for all types of media. While judges should not be influenced in their choices for awards, artists from all disciplines should receive recognition for their work. Perhaps, a statement of direction and purpose for the juried show would help to express this desire that all artistic disciplines be encouraged and recognized.

Phil suggested that judges could be asked to share more of their criteria in making award judgments. During their presentations, rather than talking primarily about themselves and their backgrounds, perhaps they could list a few characteristics of the top award works that caused them to be highly rated. Daniel suggested that judges could make comments as they

viewed the works and those comments could be typed on index cards that would be posted next to the individual works. This was unanimously recommended as a good idea.

Dee continued to list items: Catering and Floral arrangements will be discussed at the next committee meeting. Gene Andersen will do the ribbons again this year.

Introduction of Board Members - Continued

Jim VanValkenburg suggested that since all Board members were now present, that each member introduce themselves. New Board member, William McCabe IV, began by describing his lifelong involvement in the arts, including management responsibilities with the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Minneapolis College of Art and Design. His primary responsibilities involved group liaison, visits and public tours. He is now with the Opus Corporation. Other Board members introduced themselves in turn.

Media Studios

Phil Johnson reported that the new Tobin 8mm Film Transfer equipment had arrived just an hour before the Board meeting. This new device will solve the problem of obsolete projectors needed repairs with scarce parts. The video tapes and DVD's produced will have brighter, clearer images. This new equipment will give the Media Studios something to talk about so newspapers and TV stations may be willing to publicize the film transfer services. The new projector was purchased with grant money provided by Rotary, the Peggy Kelly Family Fund and the Edina Community Foundation.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT GARDEN SALE

Opens next Thursday (May 3) from 5-8pm! Curated and designed by Sandra Shaughnessy and Jean Slatery, this sale will include lots of pots and even some antiques! Bring your friends!

THANK YOU, SANDY!

A huge thank you to Sandy Clark for hosting our 30th Annual Volunteer Luncheon. It will be Friday, May 4 at noon.

ART FAIR

We will have the same space as last year. We will be setting up tables in front of Tejas. Come help sell and also shop! This is the pottery department's big fundraiser of the year!

GIFT SHOP and GALLERY - VOLUNTEERS WANTED

If you are not already on a committee or have a specific Board area, this might be your chance to get more involved!

- Arrange items.
- Dusting.
- Contacting artists.
- Suggesting items.
- Attend art fairs to get new items ideas.
- Set up Gallery Exhibitions.
- Help host-serve wine, arrange food, clean up.

Please call Eddi Fesler at 952-941-4395 or Mary Dvorak or me if you have a few hours to donate or if you know of anyone who would like to help.

CULTURAL EXPLORATIONS PROGRAM – Carnival of the Arts

We need Board Members to participate to make this year's Carnival a success!

October 7, 2007 – Carnival of the Arts – Art Around the World

This is one of our BIG events of the year and I hope you already have it on your calendar! calendar! Next meeting will be before the Board Meeting on May 24, 2007. So far, we have have planned to make this Cultural Event include activities from Sweden, Ireland, Mongolia, Mongolia, America, and Senegal. Also, the Manduhai people will be setting up a tent (ger) (ger) that will be open to the public. Mike, I'm hoping that it's ok to go ahead and use funding from the Peggy Kelly Family Fund. The performance tent worked out great last year. See complete details of the last meeting.

PIE DAY SILENT AUCTION

Thanks to all of you who worked on the Silent Auction. (Especially Gene, Dee, and George!) George!) We were able to raise \$4,475! Oh, and thanks to Liz, Ruth, and Jim for bidding and and Alexandra and Linda for donating! I think it is an easy fundraiser as far as staff time goes and very little expenses. Anybody want to chair for next year?

With the funds that we raised, we have contracted an electrician to replace the "car headlights" in the Gift Shop with energy efficient, long-lasting bulbs, adding a new track as as you go into the Gallery, and putting in some undershelf lighting to brighten up the Gift Gift Shop. We have also purchased new area rugs for the entry way and downstairs.

JURIED SHOW

Dee Dege is chairing and will be setting up meetings. We need a bigger committee this year! year!

NEW ON THE TEAM

We welcome Sandra Shaughnessy as our new Pottery Studio Manager and Joe Lanners, Maintenance and Building.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES - See Calendar

POTTERS' GAMES

Special thanks to Grace Pass, Harriet Campe, and Sandra Shaughnessy for organizing the Potters' Games on March 31. There were about 25 potters attending with Pat Cook as the the emcee. The potters made hundreds of pots that they are donating to sell at the Edina Art Art Fair.

FINANCIAL

We're starting of the year in a healthy financial situation. We're almost \$1,500 ahead on Gift Gift Shop sales and almost \$1,000 ahead in the Media Studios. We're somewhat over budget budget on cleaning and maintenance, but we really needed to do extra cleaning in pottery due to health concerns over the excess dust in the department. We had many volunteer hours, too.

BUILDING EXPANSION

Board Members are invited to join this committee. Committee Members so far are: Pat Greer, Bob Kojetin, John Keprios, Jim VanValkenburg, Michael Frey, Sandra Shaughnessy, Bill McCabe, and Diana Hedges.

Brief recap:

Idea: To build a two level 3,200 sq ft total addition – upper level for the School of Realism and lower level for pottery.

Ken Rosland and Jim VanValkenburg submitted this plan to the City Council to receive funding for the project from the Capital Improvement Plan. The City will pay for an assessment.

At the City Council's request, we are preparing the Request for Proposals (for Assessment and Impact) to see if this proposed expansion is feasible. Next meeting is April 12 at 3pm. We will go over the request draft.

ADDITIONAL DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

July 4th -10am parade – decorate an umbrella and join in the fun!

- 6:30-10:30pm - Open House- host and watch fireworks, too!

July 12 – Children's Book Illustrators opening 5-8pm

July 26 - 4pm EAC Board

August 16 - Bring in for Juried Show – help!

August 20-22 - Hang Juried Show

August 23 - Board at 4pm and JS Opening from 5-8pm

September 7 - Set up for Fall into the Arts

September 8 and 9 - Fall into the Arts

September 27 - Board 4pm

October 5 and 6 - Set up for Carnival

October 7 - 10am-1pm – prep for Carnival and 1-4pm- Carnival (4-6pm clean up)

THANKS! Diana 612-915-6603 or 952-406-1608 (cell)

Board Member Comments on Draft Request for Proposals (RFP) - Building Expansion

Jim Van Valkenburg asked that members review the draft RFP and forward comments. He stressed that this is very early in the process of soliciting proposals and absolutely nothing has been decided or funded. Ruth stated that an EAC student and supporter had already contacted her to make only one comment, which was “don't tear down the Art Center”. Ken stated that he would like to be part of any group considering this expansion. He counseled caution in asking for too much thereby risking rejection of any plan to expand. Jim V. asked members for recommendations of architects to be sent the RFP. Ken recommended retaining a small building architect, not a residential architect. George stressed that any development at this site should take advantage of the beautiful scenery in the back yard (Lake Cornelia). Ruth recommended striking any language referring to a teardown and rebuild. The importance of the Art Center is not just dollars – the big part of the appeal of this place is the home itself. Ken moved to approve the draft RFP, Heather seconded. Passed.

Other Business

Jim V. reminded everyone of the 30th annual Volunteer luncheon at Sandy and Ron Clark's home on Friday, May 4 at 12 Noon.

Ken commented that he really appreciated the new monthly calendars received from Diana. Thanks to Ann Spooner for her work on this project.

Public Comments

No members of the community-at-large were present.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.